



PTO/SB/30 (04-05)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal Address to: Customer Window, MS RCE U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314	Application Number	09/309,274-Conf. #7294
	Filing Date	May 11, 1999
	First Named Inventor	Alexander I. McAllister
	Art Unit	2614
	Examiner Name	J. T. Phan
	Attorney Docket Number	00-VE09.46 RCE 2

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a. ☒ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

ii. ☒ Other Amendment in Response to Final Office Action Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 filed 7 August 2006.

b. ☐ Enclosed

i. ☐ Amendment/Reply

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iv. ☐ Other _____

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other _____

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, any underpayment of fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 06-2375. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)

ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 910.00 enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED			
Signature	<u>Michael J. Strauss</u>	Date	September 11, 2006
Name (Print/Type)	Michael J. Strauss	Registration No.	32,443

Request for Continued Examination Transmittal

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being hand delivered on the date shown below to: Customer Window, MS RCE, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314.

Dated: September 11, 2006 Signature: _____ (Michael J. Strauss)